



Dordt totally owns
Northwestern at the whole
engagement thing. Page 2

East Campus:
opinions and solutions
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Versus:
Thomas Jefferson vs
Thomas Jefferson
(just kidding) Page 8

the Zircon

55th water believed to be fermented



Water at 55th Street Grille was discovered fermented last week. Photo by Luna Goodfellow.

Lady BonBons
Staff Writer

Fermented water was discovered at the 55th Street Grille on Thursday, Nov. 11. Jack Daniels was enjoying his sixth glass of water when his friends noticed that he was

slurring his words and kept falling off his chair. “We jokingly asked him what was in his drink that was making him like this,” said Jenny Krader. “I then tried some of his water and realized that there was alcohol in it. We immediately took it away from him because we

believe that alcohol is of the devil. We Puritans don’t practice devilish ways.” When Daniels realized what was going on, he immediately got down on his knees and began to pray for forgiveness. “I was horrified,” said Daniels. “I could not for the

life of me understand why this would happen to a guy like me; granted, I couldn’t understand much of anything at the time.” Soon after the incident occurred, both Dordt security and the administration were contacted. Daniels and sixty-five other students were breathalyzed. The administration began investigation immediately following the event and quickly concluded that the water had naturally fermented. Att Artema, the sponsor of AC/DC, explained the process of fermentation for any skeptics that might be out there. “Well you see, when the water has been sitting long enough, it becomes old and might be exposed to air,” said Artema. “This then can in return cause the water jug to take on a swollen state and *voilà!*...you’ve got your fermented water.” Bethany Schuttinga, associate provost, expressed her position on the issue. “This is a most unfortunate event that has occurred,” said Schuttinga. “But I have no

comment.” Water will not be served at 55th Street until the company that manufactures the water comes out to investigate their product. “We don’t want to risk something like this happening again,” said Artema. “We are just happy that there were only minor injuries that occurred and no one was seriously harmed during the incident. As far as we know, there were only seven fermented glasses of water, six of which were consumed by Daniels.” Daniels maintained minor bruises from falling off the chair several times and was admitted to a detox rehabilitation center, but he is now out and doing well. “I’m so glad Dordt figured out that the water was fermented and not spiked,” said Daniels. “Even though I do not understand how that is possible, I’m just delighted that no one at Dordt is horrible enough to spike the water. I’d hate to start calling it the 55th Street Bar and Grille.”

Security catches security: consequences for campus

Administration considers bringing in new ‘street rules’ as a result of recent security activity

Cosmo Kramer
Staff Writer

A recent incident between members of security may have an impact on all Dordt students. “We have had an issue with the rumors about security hiding behind bushes,” said Director of Residence Life Robert Taylor. “I want to put these rumors to rest and say they are completely accurate.” Taylor was responding to an event that occurred over the weekend. Student security employee Kody Roos was patrolling the campus when he noticed stir-

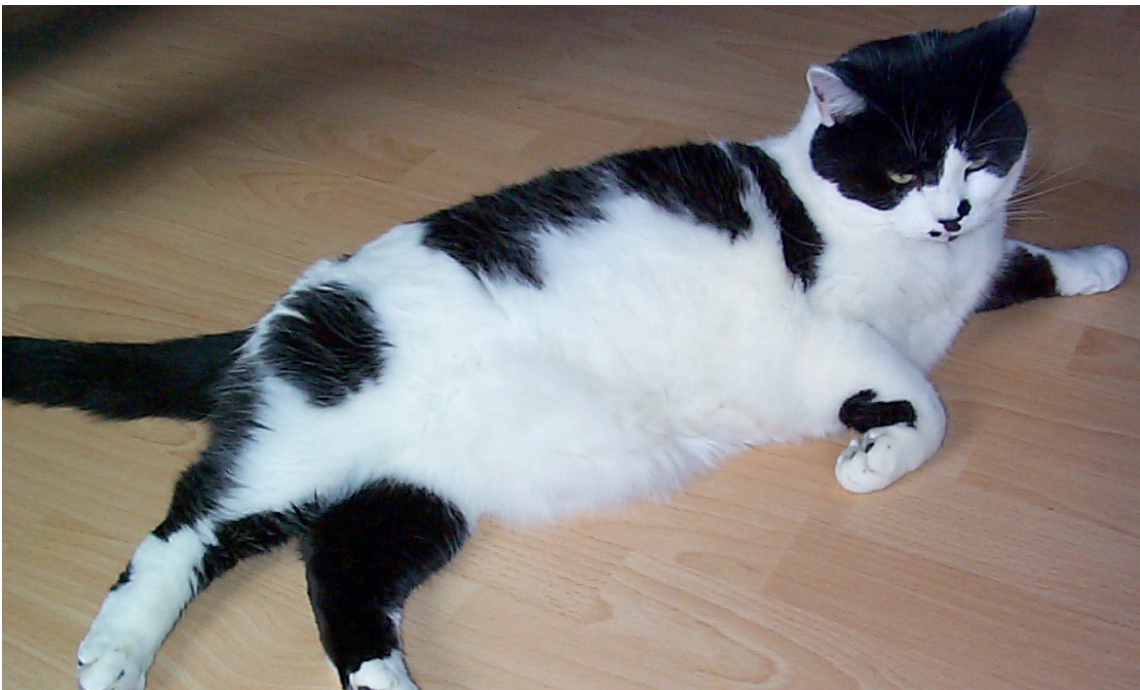
ring behind one of the bushes by East Campus. “I noticed it because we have codes for all the bushes on campus,” said Roos. “My personal favorite is the one between East Campus and the Rec Center, code named: ‘The Roos Roost.’” While Roos was driving in the squad car, he noticed activity behind the bush. “I knew that was my spot, but I never told anyone about it. It made me suspicious so I decided to check it out,” said Roos. Roos sneaked around the back of the spot so he could get a look at the perpetrator.

“It was my twin brother, Kyle Roos,” said Roos. “He was hiding in my spot. I called dibs but he never listens to me. I was forced to write him a level two.” According to the Dordt College handbook, when one security student chooses a stake out spot, no other student may come within 25 yards of the spot, unless given permission by the owner. If these rules are not followed, security is forced to issue students level twos. “I spent so much time customizing my spot,” said Kody Roos. “I have a recliner with a built in fridge, stashes of can-

dy hidden under the concrete, and sharks with laser beams attached to their heads for extra protection. Now everyone knows about it.” When asked why he knowingly stole his brother’s stake-out spot, Kyle Roos said, “I called double dibs.” According to Wikipedia, if one person calls double dibs, it cancels out the first dibs and passes ownership to the double dibs caller. Dordt faculty and staff are now considering the notion of adopting “Dibs Calling” as legitimate means of problem solving. “We are thinking about allowing certain street rules to

have some type of jurisdiction on campus,” said Taylor. “But I don’t think we should. The other day I brought an apple into work for lunch. I was about to eat it when Aaron Bart walked by and called double dibs on it. I no longer owned my apple.” Other street rules under consideration are “Eenie Meenie Miney Moe,” “Black Black no trades back” and “Triple Dog Dare.” Student Symposium will be voting on whether or not to pass this motion in their next meeting.

Hoekstra contributes to on-campus CATastrophe



One of Hoekstra's cats came to Gen 300. It now knows how to solve many U.S. poverty issues.

Lady BonBons
Staff Writer

If you are a Dordt student and happen to go outside on occasion, you have most likely encountered a cat... or six. You probably have even uttered these very words: "Where are all these cats coming from?"

Well, we have the answer to that question. And for those of you that have been wondering, Professor Mahaffy is NOT raising cats for experimentation... if that was the case, it would be cougars, not cats. Then we'd have a much bigger problem on our hands. The culprit responsible for

the infestation of these furry feline friends is none other than Barb Hoekstra, associate professor of education. At first glance, Hoekstra does not strike one as a hopeless cat lady. For years she hid her cat addiction, but her problem has become so bad that it is now following her to work – literally.

"I don't know how it got like this," said Hoekstra in tears. "After rescuing my first cat, Mr. Darcy, from the cold, I just could not say no to any cats that showed up on my doorstep. Before I knew it, I had over forty cats in my house." For the past several months, Hoekstra has been bringing some of her cats to work because she just couldn't handle the separation. "Their love is my drug," said Hoekstra. "Being away from them all day is unbearable. Once I even had to take them into class to keep me sane. Word soon got out to Bethany Scuttinga, though, and she made me put them outside." Most students do not mind the cats around campus. They find them to be entertaining and great stress-relievers. "My friends and I like to perform experiments on them," said Don Falseblood. "Like, have you ever put a cat in the microwave? I wouldn't exactly suggest it. We kind of need a new microwave. Oh and Barb

might need a new cat." Some students, however, aren't so fond of the cats. "One of them attacked me when I was on my way to class," said Annemieke Vanderdamdervelt. "It just came out of nowhere and tried to lick me to death! Barb Hoekstra really needs to take care of these cats. If she doesn't, I will and it won't be pretty." Hoekstra is well aware of the changes that need to be made. "I would just be horrified if I found little Heathcliff or Meow Tse Tongue dead in one of Dordt's non-existent parking lots after being hit by a car," said Hoekstra. "I realize how much of a risk it is to have my cats roaming around campus. I need to get help...for the well-being of my cats." Hoekstra has been seeking help from CLA (Cat Ladies Anonymous). She hopes that she will soon be able to control the population of cats, not only in her home, but on campus as well.

It's 'ring by spring,' not 'sing by spring'

NC/DC finals cancelled in favor of marriage seminars

Rolf Maccutcheon
Staff Writer

No one will be singing at the NC/DC finals; Dordt has already won the most important competition. As proved by round two of the competition, Dordt College is home to more engaged couples than any other college, so there is no need to prove that Dordt can win a singing contest. Instead, Dordt will give Northwestern students advice on how to find a mate at college. Students at Dordt know that couples commonly become engaged and even marry before they graduate. Students at Northwestern College in Orange City have admitted to being jealous of Dordt students' abilities at finding that special someone. Dordt has been rated as the top college on the list of highest number of engaged couples by U.S. News & World Report, along with being rated third in its list of best colleges. "I came to Dordt to get my MRS. degree," Minnie Star, freshman at Dordt said. "I was told it was the best place to find a man!"

Northwestern has asked for Dordt's advice so its students know how to attract soul mates and can have the same luck in getting engaged prior to graduation. Dordt will invite all Northwestern students (and Dordt students) who are single to come and listen while all the engaged couples from Dordt share their tips and tricks on how to be in a good relationship. Students from Northwestern think this is a great idea because many of them are not sure how to begin a serious relationship, like Northwestern sophomore, Hart Throb. "I've already got my eye on someone special, but I'm not really sure where to start," said Throb. "We are anticipating that many Northwestern students will come to listen to our wise students and that this will be a great time," Robert Taylor, director of residence life, said. Dordt will also be hosting workshops on Dating 101 and How to Pick the Perfect Ring. Students interested in these seminars can e-mail notsingleforlong@dordt.edu for more information.

Dordt students 'sick of this crap'

Spring Grastorf
Staff Writer

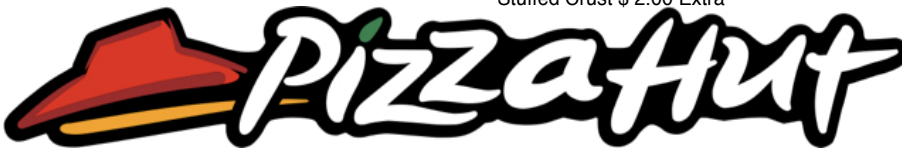
I'm sure you've heard it--it's nearly inevitable. With all of your out-of-town visitors -- friends, family, or someone the Admissions Office sends to your dorm room -- someone is bound to say it: Sioux Center smells. Sure it does. But Dordt students are sick of hearing it. "Every single visitor I've ever had seems compelled to remark, 'Ewww! It smells here!'" freshman Katie Jelsma of Sioux Center said. "It's the smell of money, honey...get over it."



Bessie here is the one producing the smell, but Dordt students have to suffer--not from the smell itself, but from constantly hearing about it. Photo by Megan Judith Dodson.

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Roy G. Biv needs a Diamond, too



Soon, the Diamond will be available in a kinds of different colors. Photo by Allyson Brightman.

Cosmo Cramer
Staff Writer

Inspired by the creation of the underground Black Diamond, many different color Diamonds will be the new trend at Dordt College.

“I think it is a fantastic idea,” said Resident Life Director Robert Taylor. “Why shouldn’t students be able to customize their newspapers? We customize everything else in America.”

The colors available will be Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet, Fuchsia, Teal, Onyx, and Pink.

“It’s going to be so colorful,” said freshman Emilie Weinert. “It’s going to be like a double rainbow all the way like all the way across the sky. People will be asking ‘What does this mean?’”

There will also be a new option at 55th Avenue where students can order their food, drink and personalized Diamond.

“Smoothies and Diamonds go together like Sonny and Cher,” said Taylor.

If the popularity of the assortments of colors takes off, students are even thinking about other types of Diamonds.

Among the suggestions that have already begun production are Blood Diamonds for the budding warlords, the “Where’s Waldo” Diamond for the inner child and the Engagement Diamond for couples.

Other possible ideas include flavored Diamonds, 3D Diamonds, and invisible Diamonds.

When asked about his favorite Diamond, Robert Taylor was unable to be contacted.

“He has been in his office reading the ‘Where’s Waldo’ Diamond all week,” said Taylor’s secretary.

MRS Program Expanded
‘No Senior Left Behind’

Tyesha Glenny
Staff Writer

Afraid that marriage percentages might drop, and in order to stay ahead of Northwestern, Dordt announced its intention of expanding the MRS program earlier this week.

Dordt plans to incorporate a “No Senior Left Behind” program. This program will work to make sure every senior eventually graduates with a spouse.

For years Dordt has been known for its success at the percentage of students who graduate holding an MRS degree, but many, faculty and students alike, have expressed concern at how many people will be entering their last semester without a ring.

James Mahaffy always dedicates time to promote dating, engagement and marriage, so he is thrilled that Dordt is finally taking away some of his responsibility:

“A lot of brethren are too scared to take a girl out for decapods,” Mahaffy said.

“They need the extra confidence that the new courses will offer them.”

Mary Meplease chose Dordt hoping to find a husband, but with Thanksgiving coming quickly, having only been on two Dordt walks, and still not having met any possibilities, she was feeling discouraged until Dordt made the announcement.

“I was overjoyed at the news about the new classes next semester. All I want is a husband, so hopefully these classes will help me find someone,” Meplease said. “Plus with the new program I don’t have to pretend to be an education major: I can take all MRS preparation classes.”

Starting this spring, Dordt hopes to offer classes to help students find Mr./Mrs. Right, plan the wedding and adjust to the married life.

100 level courses will focus on initiating conversation, Dordt walks, and the dos and don’ts of dating.

200 level courses look at how to decorate, coordinate

and plan the many details of the wedding.

300 level courses look in depth at food preparation, division of responsibilities, and finding a place with the in-laws.

In addition to the new program, the CORE program will expand to require every incoming freshman to take CORE #1 – a class teaching students to ask, “Want to do homework and then get married?”

Marie Dah, a married student planning on graduating this Christmas, says, “I wish Dordt had thought of this sooner. It would have been so much easier to plan my wedding if I had majored in MRS with an emphasis in reception planning. My husband also wishes I could have taken the class on not burning the first year’s food.”

The program expansion is expected to raise student enrollment starting as early as this coming spring semester. By 2020, Dordt hopes to fully achieve “No Senior Left Behind.”

Student Symposium Update

Symposium creates flyer, celebrates doing something

Ramrod Stevens
Staff Writer

Members of Dordt Student Symposium are still reeling after creating a colorful flyer to be hung around Dordt’s campus.

“It feels great,” says Symposium representative Cindy Van Winkelsma. “There’s nothing better than the feeling of a job well done.”

The flyer’s creation marks the first time in 15 years that the student government has produced anything tangible.

“It’s hard to downplay the significance of this moment,” said President Carl Zylstra. “This is the biggest thing to hit Dordt since the mumps outbreak of 2010.”

The celebration began Tuesday evening after nearly one-and-a-half painstaking hours of graphic design yielded the 18 x 10 inch masterpiece.

Campus security has been double-staffed all week to keep the inevitable partying under control.

“Doing something feels great, but we don’t want our students losing control of themselves,” said Associate Provost Bethany Schuttinga. “And I should know better than anyone how exciting it is. I did something good once too.”

Dean of Chapel, Aaron Baart, sees a whole new future for Symposium. “Maybe now members of Symposium will do more than sit around and talk or whine about how little respect they get,” said Baart.

According to Zylstra, change may not come swiftly. “The club may need a few years to recover before we attempt to do something again,” said Zylstra.

Student Symposium members don’t mind. They say it will give adequate time for the college to admire their accomplishment. After all, it’s more than a piece of paper. It’s a landmark.

**Note: the Symposium writer who usually contributes these articles is out celebrating with the rest of the group.*



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Features

How do you solve a problem like East Campus?

Residents suggest many options for renovations of the apartments

Bert Van Marwijk
Staff Writer

Broken appliances, leaky ceilings, and those pesky parking spots located just outside their doors; one certainly must have an unbreakable will to reside in the apartment buildings of East Campus.

The heroic forces of Dordt’s administration have certainly not turned a blind eye to the Easterlings plight, but their plans have not been met with the greatest enthusiasm. To help inform our dear leaders’ decisions, the Zircon has given a voice to several students with unique ideas on how to solve the problem.

“Why not make the entire block one giant green space?” said junior John Heitinga.

There are currently plans to eliminate the two rows of parking nearest East Campus and extend the green space from the Rec Center all the way to Covenant, but Heitinga still doesn’t think that’s enough.

“The Kuyper (apartment) residents have it so nice,” he claims, “they get to walk through at least 10 feet of beautiful, clean, Iowan grass before reaching their cars. Since East’s housing is so low quality, we should get at least 50 feet of nothing but green grass.”

When asked how so much green space would benefit the Easterlings’ plight during the cold months of winter, Heitenga refused to comment.

While many suggestions focused on making East Campus more aesthetically pleasing, some ideas were certainly more creative than others.

“Look, we can basically all agree that East Campus is like the ‘ghetto’ of Dordt College,” said art major Rafael Van Der Vaart. “Let’s take that analogy and run with it:

“Why not stack all the East Campus buildings on top of each other, create a giant clock tower, and still make enough room for all the green space you want?”

-Giovanni Van Bronckhorst

hold a graffiti contest in the East Campus canyon.”

Giovanni Van Bronckhorst, a senior currently enrolled in Dordt’s Pre-Architecture program, came up with an idea to kill two birds with one stone.

“Dordt’s administration wants more green space, but I keep hearing that a clock tower would be much cooler,” said Van Bronckhorst. “Why not stack all the East Campus buildings on top of each other, create a giant clock tower, and still make enough room for all the green space you want? I’d suggest calling it the Tower of Babel but that might not go

over so well.”

Based on the premise that all of East Campus was doomed for demolition, some students gave suggestions on what to do as East’s grand finale.

“We need to be prepared for the 21st century,” said Criminal Justice major Mark van Bommel, “and that means readying Dordt for a terrorist attack, however extremely unlikely it might seem. I say: hold counter-terrorism practice with paintball guns. We need to be prepared, and safe, and -- okay fine, it would just be incredibly fun.”

The most controversial suggestion, however, came from Robin Van Persie, an undeclared senior.

“We East Campus residents have had to put up with bad living situations without any compensation whatsoever,” said Van Persie, “what better reward than making East the “wet” part of campus?”

Allowing alcohol on school grounds, even if only for a specific section of housing, is an unprecedented move. Students, however, are rapidly signing onto the idea; a recent campus survey showed almost unanimous agreement that Van Persie’s suggestion was the best of those presented.

“East Campus is always going to have problems,” said Van Persie, “but at least with alcohol we can forget about those problems.”

Sentient mold speaks up

Zircon: Thanks for taking the time to talk to us, sentient mold.	Zircon: That seems very hard to believe. After all, isn’t mold asexual?
Mold: Please, “mold” will do.	Mold: Only some types.
Zircon: How long have you been a resident of East Campus?	Zircon: Awkward. So what made you decide on Dordt anyway?
Mold: I started sporing in 1995, became sentient in 2008.	Mold: Its Reformed perspective on higher education.
Zircon: What’s your opinion on the East Campus debate?	Zircon: Really?
Mold: Honestly, it’s slightly insulting. Everybody keeps complaining about the living conditions and having mold in their rooms, but I’m a great roommate!	Mold: Nah, I’m joking. I got an athletic scholarship.
Zircon: How so?	Zircon: Nice. With Thanksgiving coming up, I have to ask, where is home for you?
Mold: I do the dishes twice a week, cook a meal every Wednesday, I’m not obsessed with Glee, and besides-I’m a total chick magnet.	Mold: Canada.
	Zircon: Makes sense. Well, thanks for giving us your perspective. Got any final words for Dordt students?
	Mold: Leave your bread out. I’m lonely.

The other side

Not everyone thinks that East Campus living conditions are a problem.

“When I lived there, we had the same problems -- and six residents!” said Joel Adams, senior. “They need to stop complaining.”

Others agree.

“When I lived there, we had the same problems -- and sixteen residents!” said Emma Kramer, senior citizen. “Kids these days have it so easy.”

Forming Defenders:
In the bubble



Olga VanDerVanVorst
Columnist

I wonder what it is like for the outsiders: for those who didn't grow up eating snert and sneaking Wilhelmina's out of their grandmother's candy jar? What is it like to be much, much, less than Dutch?

All over the US you can find different Dutch bubbles. But as the members of these bubbles reproduce, they send their children back to the place where they most likely met their other Dutch counterpart—Dordt College.

Ah yes, so here we are: back at our parent's stomping grounds, forced to meet other Dutch decenders of the opposite sex (maybe even a son/daughter of your dad's college roommate). Although, one must be careful. It is important to make sure if you DO meet someone to consider the following criteria:

- 1) They attend a CRC that doesn't have a drum set.
- 2) They can recite the Heidelberg Catechism.
- 3) They are an active member of the Republican Party.
- 4) They don't watch TV on Sundays.
- 5) They have their own personal Grey Psalter Hymnal.
- 6) They refuse to use any translation of the Bible other than the NIV.
- 7) Marriage is their priority before finding a job.
- 8) They hold to a Dordt Worldview

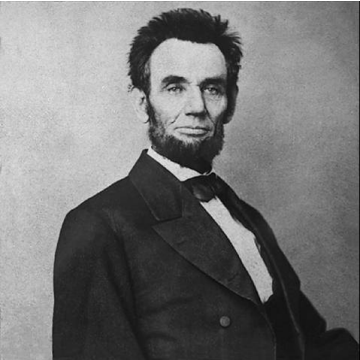
If you stay in these proper breeding grounds, you will find someone who thinks exactly like you, was raised exactly like you, and will agree to live exactly like you for the rest of your life. What else could you ask for? When we step outside the bubble we are just looking for problems and will be confronted with questions Dordt has not prepared us for. This may bring our Reformed minds to places it hasn't been, and that is just dangerous.

So be safe my friends; don't think outside the bubble.

Too much, too little:
Why the United States is a dying superpower
(and why Gillette needs to downsize)

Dr. B.A. Beardface
Guest Columnist

There is an ominous, lurking suspicion that the United States may no longer be the superpower it once was.



Abraham Lincoln: Was he genuinely honest? Or just irritable from the itchy neard?"

Many have argued that the recent Republican takeover of congress was partially caused by the fear that Democrats' stimulus spending was weakening our economic power. People are afraid that this prolonged recession is a sign of a much bigger problem: the atrophy of America's global muscle. Dad says "them Chinamans is gonna own us in thirty years, boy."

Obama has frantically consulted the elite minds of our country—economists, sociologists, scientologists, historians, political scientists, and more—to discover the root of this national decline. All have come to the same unsettling conclusion. "I dunno," said well-known Scientologist sage Lisa Marie Presley in a C.N.N. interview last Thursday, "I just don't...I

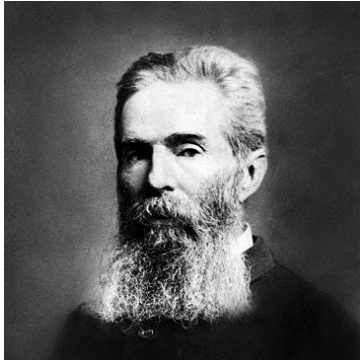
got nothin'."

I've got somethin', Lisa Marie.

It's simple. American preeminence originated in the nineteenth-century, when the U.S. economy exploded and industry grew at a revolutionary rate. Another feature of nineteenth-century America: fantastic facial hair.

In that era, a clean-shaven face was for success what Fonzie jumping the shark was for Happy Days—a death sentence. The most successful entrepreneurs in American history—Carnegie, Rockefeller, Vanderbilt, et al.—all had facial hair. Warren Buffet? Bill Gates? "Toupée" Trump? For all their wealth, them clean-shaven Nancies aint doing the trick for the American economy.

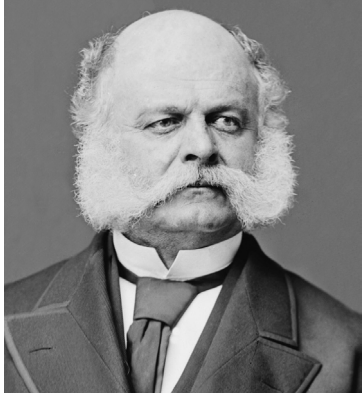
Good facial hair wouldn't just boost the economy. It would



Herman Melville: The brooding beard of America's literary Renaissance.

boost the war effort. As a Union general during the Civil War, what Ambrose Burnside lacked in tactical prowess, he made up for in stellar sideburns. Enormous, glorious, inspiring side-

burns. Legend has it that after his loss at the Battle of Fredericksburg, Burnside single-handedly rejuvenated the Union war effort and prodded them on to victory with "a quick trim and fluff o' the ole' whiskers."



Ambrose Burnside: I'm in absolute awe of those things. Nuff' said.

The arts would benefit as well. America's greatest novel was written in this era, written not by some baby-faced Fitzgerald but by the boldly-bearded Herman Melville. Moby Dick, Melville said, was not drawn forth from the depths of his artistic soul, "but from the tangled, sullen depths of my leviathan beard."

Our country needs a kickstart. If we want to regain our spot as "Numero Uno City on Hill," Obama had better take a lesson from the pages of history. Abraham Lincoln couldn't have preserved the Union and abolish slavery without his wicked neard.

Just imagine: Obama sprouting Burnside side-burns. Infinite power.

Go facial hair, go 'merica.



The good wife's
guide from 1955
(revised)

Skye Reid
Columnist

The following is excerpted from an alleged article published in Housekeeping Monthly on May 13, 1955 (along with the proper response of any self-respecting woman.)

Have dinner ready. Plan ahead, even the night before. (Call the pizzeria up the street. Then, before hubby gets home, make sure the box is disposed of and the pizza is on a pan, looking like you just pulled it out of the oven.)

Prepare yourself. Take 15 minutes to rest so you'll be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your make-up, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh-looking. (After all, the grunge look is so last season.)

Clear away the clutter. (Start with any items of clothing your husband carelessly left behind and throw them out the window. Then see if it ever happens again.)

Be happy to see him. (Just think of all the Jimmy Choos he paid for and doesn't know it yet. That'll always put a smile on your face and shoes on your feet.)

Listen to him . . . Let him talk first – remember, his topics of conversation are more important than yours. (Turn your attention to something shiny while he's talking. When you get your turn, talk about your plan to end world hunger and ensure world peace.)

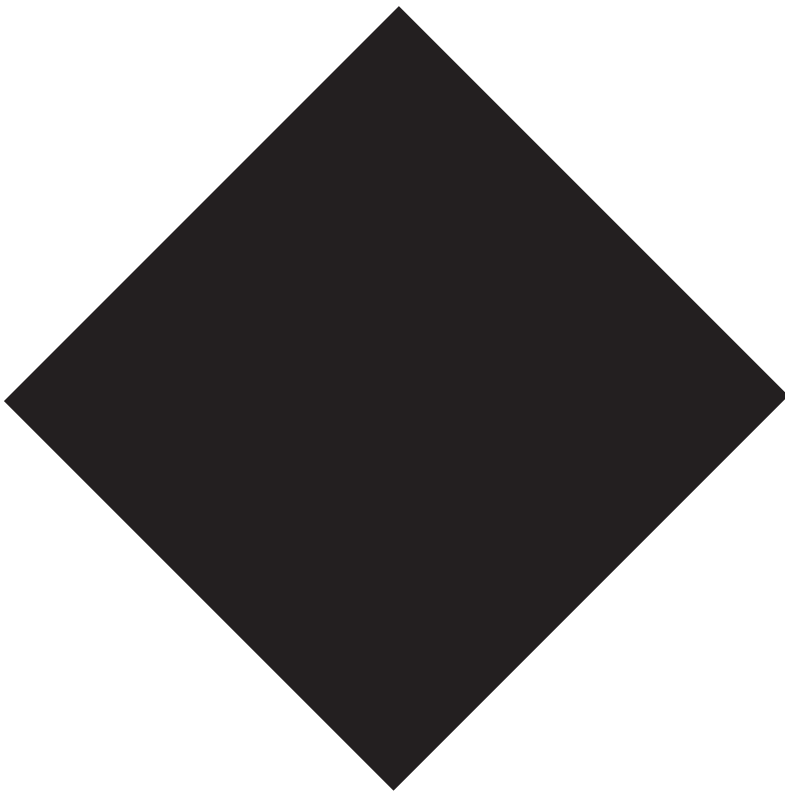
Don't greet him with complaints and problems. (That's what Twitter and Facebook are for.)

Don't complain if he's home late for dinner or even if he stays out all night. (Change the locks and see what he says in the morning.)

Don't ask him questions about his actions or question his judgment or integrity. (Later, when you're washing his socks and underwear, "accidentally" throw in a red sweater and turn on the hot water. Everything white will come out pink. Maybe your husband and his unquestionable judgment will take over laundry duty next time.)

A good wife always knows her place. (I believe it's called the mall.)

Zircon columnist disappears into
large, Diamond-shaped black hole



Sports

Hibma quits volleyball team, plans to be solo in 2011

Hrittany Baan
Staff Writer

Dorinda Hibma, the libero of Dordt College’s volleyball team, has decided to split and start her own solo team in the fall of 2012.

“I’m too good, and I can’t play with these amateurs any longer,” Hibma said.

Hibma has received many honors throughout her career, including the NAIA Region III Player of the Week in 2007 and GPAC Player of the Week four times in 2010. According to NAIA stats as of November 9, Hibma ranks no. 2 in Division I in total digs (951), and no. 3 in Division I digs per game (6.510). She also leads her team with a high 97 percent in serve reception.

“I don’t even sweat in practice or games. All of these girls are taking up my playing time, and I know that if it weren’t for Kendra Potgeter stealing the front row I would definitely be no. 1 in blocks and

kills. I’m good enough to be my own team.”

In fact, Hibma’s plan is the main reason coach Van Den Bosch decided to leave his coaching career with the volleyball team after this season.

“I will be her coach,” said Van Den Bosch. “We’ll win the conference next year no problem.”

Van Den Bosch is also looking at the benefits of a one-woman team.

“We’ll only have to take a car to a match,” Van Den Bosch said. “Plus, she’s getting married, which means she won’t eat a lot so she can fit into her dress. That will be good for the budget.”

Both Hibma and Van Den Bosch think a one-woman team will be great.

“Of course I’ll be able to play by myself; I’ve done it the past four years! I am the team, I am Dordt College volleyball. Those other girls just get in my way.”

Hibma’s teammates haven’t

taken the news well.

“First they were first upset, but now anytime I walk past they avoid eye contact and run away. They’re intimidated by their rivals,” said Hibma.

The Zircon staff tried to contact the team for comment, but no one wanted to talk about the situation.

The NAIA board of directors has had meetings to discuss and develop the team, but nothing is finalized.

“We have a few things to change in our regulations, but we’re willing to make exceptions for Dorinda,” said Kami Tribeck, member of the NAIA board. “A player with her talent needs to be recognized, so I hope this works out for her.”

A voting amongst the NAIA board will take place on December 14, 2010. If allowed to become a team, Hibma will take the place of recently closed Dana College in the GPAC.



After such a successful season, Hibma has decided to play volleyball solo next year, coached by Tom Van Den Bosch.

Ask an Athlete

Brian Wulfric is captain of the Dordt ping pong team, leading them to victory in over half their games this season. As Wulfric nears the end of his college sports career of ping pong, he hopes to move on to national tournaments in the future.

Luna Goodfellow
Staff Writer

Name: Brian Wulfric

Year: Junior

Sport: Ping Pong

Favorite Pre-game song: “Eye of the Tiger”

Pre-game tradition:
I do a couple jumping jacks to get warmed up, listen to my iPod, but that’s about it.

Best and worst things about practices:
Word got around that I’m pretty much a celebrity, so no one really wants to practice with me because they know they’re going to lose.

Favorite memory:
When we drove all the way to Minneapolis for our tournament and ended up getting slaughtered. Lots of team bonding happens when you lose so terribly. At least we got to go to the Mall of America.

What made you get into ping pong?
My dad was a ping pong champion in his youth, so when I started playing I always had ideas that I would become the great player that he is.

Why everyone should play ping pong:
It’s a distraction from homework.

Favorite place to play at?
In the game room in the campus center. It has a great atmosphere because everyone is having a great time playing games of all sorts.

How long have you been playing ping pong?:
Since I came to Dordt two years ago. Some guys were playing it and I ended up getting hooked.

Where did you grow up?
I was born in a small city of 500,000 in China. Some people say that this is why I play ping pong so well, but I believe it’s just in my blood... and the table tennis lessons twice a week for fourteen years probably helped a bit.

Favorite food:
Ramen noodles. They’re cheap.

Favorite pizza topping: Pepperoni, of course.

Favorite movie: Forrest Gump

New sport fun for the whole family



Sarah Van den Hoekstra has been ready for Dutch Bingo since she learned her family tree. Van den Hoekstra is still undefeated in the Dordt practice rounds (pictured) and is ready to take on rival school Northwestern in the big kick-off.

Photo by Luna Goodfellow

Tyesha Glenn
Staff Writer

Dordt’s newest sport, Dutch Bingo, kicks off next week. The Defender’s first battle will be against Northwestern, competing for the title of Northwest Iowa’s truest Dutch people.

The team began practices the first week of school and has made incredible progress. Practices can be draining and take a great deal of time, but the team believes they have a chance against the competition.

Abraham VanVanderVeen, the team captain, said, “The team has a wide range of people who have put in a lot of hours studying not only their own family history, but also the history of people on campus.”

Practice often includes visiting with elderly women after church, extensive interviews with the largest Dutch families on campus and a lot of family tree research.

The scoring is slightly more complex than most other sports on campus, but it is not impossible to figure out. Scores are based on how many connections people can make: for every related connection, the points are doubled.

Dordt’s team is comprised of a wide collection of students.

VanVanderVeen said, “When we started putting the team together, we looked at people who knew everyone on campus and began narrowing it down by how well they could explain their relationship to anyone else on campus.”

With the competition near-

ing, team excitement is high. Jacoba Zylsmitinga says, “I am really nervous for the competition. Northwestern has a couple people who grew up in families where kids played Dutch Bingo before they learned their ABCs, but our team is strong.”

As the team continues preparing for what might be the biggest sporting event of the year, students on campus are awaiting the arrival eagerly: hanging posters, designing shirts and making cheers to support their team.

“It should be a lot of fun, and we hope a lot of people show up to support us and cheer us on. The event promises excitement and fierce competition for all who come,” VanVanderVeen says.

The whole community is encouraged to attend.



Initially, the Gift was supposed to be replaced by the “red statue,” but Van Wyk decided the other statue was a better option. The art professor is ready for the controversy that the statue will bring because he knows that it is all for the sake of art. *Photos by Luna Goodfellow*

‘The Gift’ to be replaced

Statue outside classroom building will now be called ‘The Package’

Cosmo Kramer
Staff Writer

Perhaps you’ve wondered where the naked statue that used to reside in the art department has disappeared to. Well, Zircon reporters have gotten to the bottom of it: the statue will soon be replacing the Gift.

Faculty says the reasoning behind this is to balance out the recent widespread feminist ideals across campus with the clear viewpoints of men.

“We decided it was time for a change,” said art professor Jake Van Wyk. “The Gift has been there for a while. It’s time to pass the mantel to another artist. Plus, we need a man’s point-of-view on campus for once.”

Scheduled to be replaced in February, the new statue has

already stirred up controversy with students, parents and members of the community.

“We can’t have ‘packaged’ deliveries out in the open for everyone to see. These ‘packages’ are a blatant disregard to things wholesome and decent,” said Ashley Ventignson, citizen of Sioux Center. “If Dordt decides to put that out in the open, then I will no longer take walks through the campus with my children.”

Ventignson’s decision to boycott Dordt is becoming a common theme in the Sioux Center community. However, there are some who think that by censoring the phallic statue Dordt creates a less-than-accurate depiction of reality.

“Why not?” said sophomore Joe Venhuizen. “Fifty percent of people on the planet

have these ‘packaged deliveries’ anyway. When a woman is exposed as a statue, it’s considered art. When a man is exposed as a statue, it’s a controversy.”

The decision to replace the statue was certainly not an easy one to make.

“We weren’t sure at first,” Van Wyk said. “But then we remembered what professor Charles Veenstra always says: ‘If people are stepping on your toes, it’s probably because your toes are too long.’”

The vote to permanently replace the Gift hasn’t happened yet. The art department has decided to replace it only for the month of February to see how the community receives it.

Undead donor funds animation program

Elizabeth Lamon
Staff Writer

Animating legend Walt Disney has returned from his cryogenic slumber to finance a new series of animation courses for Dordt students. These courses will specialize in the traditional, 2-D, hand-drawn animation style.

“It’s about time we returned to the heart of animation,” says Disney, “back when things were drawn by hand; not this newfangled computer business.”

After much debate between Disney and Registration, the courses will be offered as a

special focus majors for either Art or Digital Media Production students. Of course, they can also be taken as special electives by students of other majors.

“I’m very excited about it,” says Dustin VanNederman, a junior at Dordt. “If I actually had some open credits to take an extra course or two, it would be from one of those.”

Not only is Disney donating the various supplies needed for the courses, including 20 new drawing and light tables, but he is also financing the construction of the new wing that is to be added onto the Art Department.

Review:

Avatar: three hours you’ll never get back

Abraham Kuyper
Guest Writer

It was Saturday in downtown Amsterdam, and between picking up some Jan Hagel and Heineken at the local supermarket, I spied the recently released collector’s edition of James Cameron’s “Avatar” wedged in between a couple copies of “Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy” on the video rental shelves.

I figured that, having been forced to listen to almost a year and a half of hype, it was high time I sat down and actually took a look at this so-called “cinematic masterpiece”; besides, I had already seen “Anchorman” like 20 times. So I grabbed a bag of oliebollen before heading through the checkout, biking home, and plopping down on the couch next to my trusty beagle, Zwingli.

Three-hours-of-my-life-that-I’ll-never-get-back later, I watched the credits roll with a quizzical expression permanently etched on my face. “What was that?” I asked Zwingli, who lay curled at my feet. He yawned loudly and cocked a bewildered eyebrow. My thoughts exactly.

Let’s recap, shall we? Jake Sully, a handicapped ex-marine, gets a chance to live a bizarre sort of fantasy life as a giant blue alien running around in an exotic forest with other giant, blue, exotic, semi-naked things. Unfortunately for Jake and his freakish friends, the military-industrial complex funding his little joy

—ride needed him to kick out the aliens, or Na’vi, so the humans could get some minerals. Since Mr. Sully failed at accomplishing this mission, the humans are forced to get all up in the sphere sovereignty of the Na’vi; leaving our hero more stuck than a little Dutch boy with his finger in a dike.

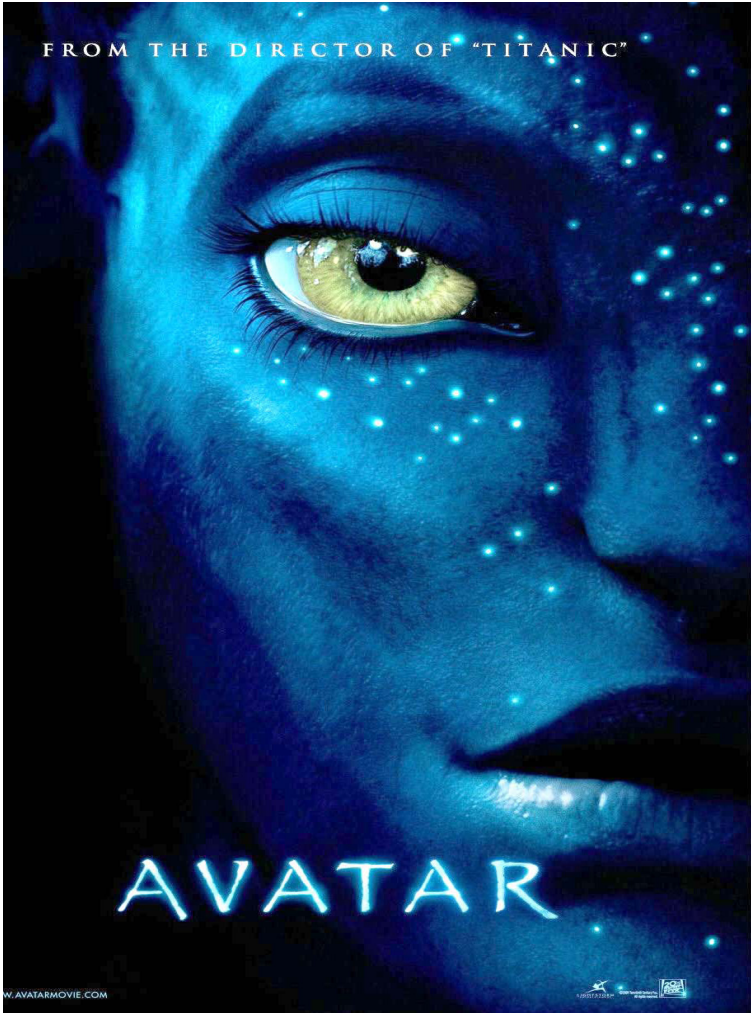
Later on there’s some fighting and dying, a couple preachy moments that make Al Gore look like a tree-hater, and then of course the attractive female alien rocks Jake’s worldview, if you know what I’m saying.

In terms of quality, the movie plot has more holes than...a Dutch dike? I’m running out of references here. For one, why would anyone go after a mineral named Unobtainium? Not exactly setting yourself up for success, are we?

Secondly, we’re never told why this mineral is so important; for all we know it cures cancer. Not so big of a hero now, are we Mr. Sully? Then there’s the whole “you betrayed our entire race, but we’re going to forgive you because you’re riding a giant bird” deal.

My final word: Again, three hours of my life that I will never get back. And no amount of “I See You’s” will ever make up for that fact. I give Avatar three out of five reformations.

It would have gotten only two, but I managed to make it through this entire review without mentioning every square in—aww screw it.



Comic Mishaps by Meghan Aardsma



Featured Photo

Campus golf overtakes real golf in popularity

Because of the lack of interest in golf, Dordt decided to replace it with campus golf in the hopes that more students will participate.

Senior Peter Goodfellow practices for the upcoming campus golf tournament against Northwestern this weekend.

Dordt hopes to add a women's campus golf team within the next few years.

Compiled by Luna Goodfellow



Versus

Dave De Wit
Columnist

Rather than writing something silly for the Zircon, I decided that since zircons are just cheaper, lower-quality versions of diamonds, then I should write a cheaper, lower-quality version of my column. Enjoy.

Hollywood VS. History Round 5
TAYLOR SWIFT vs. ROSA PARKS

Fame
SWIFT: She's so famous, she could write terrible songs and millions of people would buy them. Don't believe she could? Just listen to "Teardrops on My Guitar."
PARKS: Watch her every Thursday night on Rosa Parks & Recreation.

Advantage: SWIFT

Brains
SWIFT: Incredibly creative mind. Proved by her ability to imagine that she's in love with every guy she sees.
PARKS: Only smart enough to change an entire country's view of an entire race.

Advantage: PARKS

Strengths
SWIFT: Her swiftness, of course.
PARKS: Her racially inclusive booty, of course.

Advantage: PARKS

Weaknesses
SWIFT: Kanye West. He's like her kryptonite.
PARKS: Leg strength, obviously.

Advantage: SWIFT

Sex Appeal
SWIFT: To get half of John Mayer's heart, you have to be very good looking.
PARKS: While sitting down she looks amazing, but standing up she's ugly. That's the real reason why she didn't give up her seat.

Advantage: SWIFT

TAYLOR SWIFT WINS 3-2



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